



NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 6, 2017

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
1600 S. Main St.
Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54937-9235
www.stpetersfdl.net

Worship: Thursday, 6:30pm ~ Sunday, 7:45 & 10:00am
Phone: 922-1160 or 921-8075

Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier: 517-8808 Pastor Matthew M. Guse: 517-9000
For hospital visits or emergencies, please call Pastor Zuberbier at 517-8808.
St. Peter's Lutheran School, Mr. Andrew Mildebrandt, Principal 922-1160 ext. 302
Winnebago Lutheran Academy, Mr. David Schroeder, Principal 921-4930 ext. 304

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE May the peace of God keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

VISITORS We are pleased that you have joined us this morning to lift your voice with ours in praising the only true God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. If you are from this area and are looking for a church home, please feel free to inquire about our congregation through the pastors, one of the ushers, or one of the members. If you are a visitor from out of town, please be sure to introduce yourself to one of the pastors after the service. We welcome all of you to come and worship with us again.

RADIO MINISTRY Our congregation has a radio ministry to serve our sick and homebound and to reach the souls of our community. Tune into KFIZ AM 1450 each Sunday morning at 8:00 to hear the current weekend's sermon.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE and all other electrical devices to help minimize distractions during Divine Worship. Thank you.

TO ASSIST YOU Just ask an usher! We have six **large print hymnals** available. **Personal public address systems** are available for the hearing impaired. **Children's bulletins** suitable for preschool-age through grade 4 are available. A **cry room with audio feed** and a **window into the sanctuary** is available for parents who find it necessary to carry their children out of the sanctuary during the service. It is located to the left as you enter the narthex. **Family restrooms** are available in the multi-purpose room off the narthex or on the right side of the large hallway leading to the school wing.

HOLY COMMUNION Today we have the privilege of receiving Christ's true body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Through this sacrament the Holy Spirit seals to us the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation for the strengthening of our faith. Scriptures also teach that as we commune together, we are publicly testifying to a complete unity of faith based on a confession of all of God's Word. For this reason we respectfully request that all of those who are not members of the WELS or our sister ELS please speak with one of the pastors before communing with us. We remind you to be sure to fill out a communion registration card and place it in the offering plate. For your personal preparation before communing, turn to pages 156 and 11 in the front of the hymnal. Thank you.

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP O Jesus Christ, do not delay, but hasten our salvation; we often tremble on our way in fear and tribulation. Your saints are waiting patiently; come soon, Redeemer; make us free from every evil. Amen. (See also the prayers on pages 10-11 of *Christian Worship*.)

SERVICE THEME Jesus Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.

ORDER OF WORSHIP *The Common Service* on page 15 in the front of the hymnal

HYMNS OF THE DAY 225; 339; 397; 311; 334

PRAYER OF THE DAY Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST LESSON Joel 3:12-16
Centuries before Christ's birth, the prophet foretold the coming of Judgment Day.

“Let the nations be roused; let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat [means: The LORD has judged], for there I will sit to judge all the nations on every side. Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow – so great is their wickedness!” Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine. The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the sky will tremble. But the LORD will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.

SECOND LESSON 1 Peter 4:1-8
Rather than living for evil human desires, we live for the will of God as we await the second coming of our Savior from sin.

Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin. As a result, he does not live the rest of his earthly life for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God. For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do – living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry. They think it strange that you do not plunge with them into the same flood of dissipation, and they heap abuse on you.

But they will have to give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is the reason the gospel was preached even to those who are now dead, so that they might be judged according to men in regard to the body, but live according to God in regard to the spirit. The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray. Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

VERSE OF THE DAY Alleluia! Alleluia! My Word will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Through a parable Jesus reveals what will happen on Judgment Day.

Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. The owner's servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ ‘An enemy did this,’ he replied. The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ ‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’” Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.” He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

The Wheat Among The Weeds

Pastor Guse